

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel, comprising:

a transparent substrate;

a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate;

a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements; and

~~electrical supply means arranged between the electroluminescent elements, arranged so that an alternating voltage can be applied across each of the electroluminescent elements~~ a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate.

2. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent elements are in the form of elongate strips of electroluminescent material.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements in such a way that the charge on adjacent dielectric elements oscillates and all of the electroluminescent elements are activated simultaneously.

5. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements in pairs so that alternate electroluminescent elements are activated.

6. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements, wherein in such a way that three or more adjacent dielectric elements are ~~raised~~ coupled to the same voltage, ~~so that~~ and the spacing between activated electroluminescent elements is at least two.

7. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements, wherein in such a way that adjacent electroluminescent elements are sequentially activated ~~so as~~ to give the impression that a light source moves along the panel.

8. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, wherein each dielectric element extends at a proximal side to the surface of the transparent substrate at a gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements, and protrudes at a distal side further away from the substrate than the electroluminescent elements.

9. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 8, wherein the conductive elements are located on the distal side of the dielectric elements.

10. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein each conductive element is located at the surface of the transparent substrate in a gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements, and is completely enclosed by a dielectric element so that it does not contact an electroluminescent element.

11. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent elements emit light of different colours.

12. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~a transparent substrate,~~ a first array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a first colour, and a second array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a second colour.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 12 ~~13~~, further comprising a third array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a third colour.

15. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 12 ~~13~~, arranged so that the electroluminescent elements in different arrays are activatable

simultaneously so that the panel appears to emit light of a colour made up of a combination of the colours emitted by the different arrays.

16. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim ~~14~~15, wherein the intensity of light emitted by different arrays is variable ~~so that the apparent shade of light emitted by the panel is variable in response to a change in the intensity of light emitted by one or more the arrays~~ relative to the light emitted by the other array(s).

17. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a diffuser layer.

18. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a transparent layer arranged on the opposite side of the panel to the transparent substrate.

19. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 18, arranged to emit light through the transparent layer and the transparent substrate.

20. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of selectively actuatable arrays of electroluminescent elements, ~~so that~~ wherein different shapes ~~can be~~ are illuminated by activating different arrays.

21. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 20, wherein the arrays are at least partially superimposed on one another.

22. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~electrical supply means comprises a plurality of~~ dielectric elements are located between every other pair of electroluminescent elements, each dielectric element is in contact with ~~[[a]] one of the plurality of~~ conductive elements, and ~~[[a]] each of the plurality of~~ conductive elements is located in each gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements not occupied by a dielectric element.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1-23, wherein the transparent substrate is a curved surface.

25. (Currently amended) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 24-22, wherein the curved surface is a cylindrical surface.

26. (Currently amended) A sign panel, comprising:
a light-emitting panel ~~as claimed in any preceding claim~~ including
a transparent substrate,
a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the
transparent substrate.

a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and

a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate; and

a transparent, retroreflective layer arranged on the opposite side of the transparent substrate to the electroluminescent elements.

27. (Original) A sign panel as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a photoresistor on the surface of the transparent substrate for detecting the level of ambient light falling on the panel.

28. (Original) A method of manufacturing a light-emitting panel, comprising:

depositing a plurality of electroluminescent elements on a transparent substrate;

depositing a plurality of dielectric elements on the substrate in the gaps between the electroluminescent elements so that the dielectric elements extend further away from the substrate than the electroluminescent elements; and

depositing a conductive element on the top of each dielectric element.

29. (Currently amended) A method of emitting light from a light-emitting panel, wherein the panel includes a transparent substrate, a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate, a plurality of dielectric

elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and a plurality of
conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply
a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction
substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate, the method
comprising:

supplying an alternating voltage to alternate conductive elements so that
each of the electroluminescent elements is provided with an alternating voltage
across it and emits light.

30. (Currently amended) A method of emitting light from a light-emitting panel,
wherein the panel includes a transparent substrate, a plurality of electroluminescent
elements on the surface of the transparent substrate, a plurality of dielectric
elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and a plurality of
conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply
a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction
substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate, the method
comprising:

supplying an alternating voltage to adjacent pairs of the conductive elements
so as to activate a first set of alternate electroluminescent elements to emit light.

31. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising altering the
adjacent pairs of conductive elements to which the alternating voltage is supplied so
as to activate a second set of alternate electroluminescent elements to emit light.